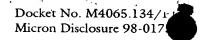
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ABSTRACT

An emission site for a large area passive matrix cold cathode field emission display having an emission tip with a sharp profile is disclosed. A metallic film formed of iridium silicide (IrSi) is used to coat the tip. By using IrSi the tips of the emission sites can be formed at low temperatures. In addition, IrSi is a fine grain material that maintains a sharp profile and can be formed in a layer as thin as 100 A°.